



- 1 -

1-36-04 *Reply/Format C*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: : Before the Examiner:
 Shai-San Gong, et al. : Lilian Vo
 Serial No.: 09/316,754 : Group Art Unit: 2127
 Filed: May 21, 1999 :
 Title: EFFICIENT SCHEMA FOR : IBM Corporation
 STORING MULTI-VALUE : Intellectual Property Law
 ATTRIBUTES IN A DIRECTORY : 11400 Burnet Road
 SERVICE BACKING STORE : International Zip 4054
 : Austin, Texas 78758

RECEIVED

JAN 21 2004

Technology Center 2100

OK for entry
 LV
 1/29/04

Mail Stop AF
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of November 13, 2003 (Paper No. 9), with a three-month statutory period for response set to expire on February 13, 2004, please reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following remarks:

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 13, 2004.

Toni Stanley
 Signature

Toni Stanley
 (Printed name of person certifying)